

April 21, 2021

Congressman Andy Barr 2709 Old Rosebud Rd. Ste. 100 Lexington, KY 40509

Dear Congressman Barr,

I am writing to express my sincere and unwavering support for the proposed Barrier Free Re-entry and Recovery Initiative (BFREE) which would provide support services to those with substance use and opioid use disorder in Lexington-Fayette county.

The composition of the BFREE Initiative includes best practices set forth by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and addresses the current need for recovery supportive living assistance, community paramedicine support, re-entry and recovery navigation, and a transportation fund. These tenets of support are critical to reducing overdose rates in Lexington-Fayette County, of which have increased nearly 60 percent in 2020 from the previous year.

It is imperative for the well-being of our workforce and community members to invest in this initiative, and others similar, to combat the effects of the opioid and substance abuse epidemic and COVID-19 pandemic. It is with strong conviction and gratitude that I submit this letter of support for funding the BFREE initiative. It is my hope that together, through investments like this, we will alleviate these crises and bring back a better world. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

4th District Councilmember Susan Lamb

